



We Draw the Lines CA
721 Capitol Mall
Suite 260
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the City of Santa Monica, I write in strong opposition of a draft proposal to align the City of Santa Monica into a Congressional district with communities located in the San Fernando Valley. My colleagues on the Council and I have monitored the recent progress of the Commission and were dismayed to learn of the proposal to remove Santa Monica from the current 33rd Congressional district, while leaving the city in its current Assembly and State Senate districts.

Our community has long been represented by the 33rd Congressional District, 50th State Assembly district and 26th State Senate district. These districts all align the coastal and Westside cities, and we urge you to keep these representational boundaries consistent. Removing Santa Monica from a district that includes our neighboring coastal and Westside cities for purposes of representation in Congress is contrary to the interests of Santa Monica residents and the duties set forth by the California Constitution to the Redistricting Commission. Redistricting should serve to unite communities of interest who share common social and economic interests for purposes of effective and fair representation. Santa Monica is much less geographically or demographically connected with those communities in the San Fernando Valley with whom we would be combined under the draft proposal. We also have divergent policy priorities in Congress from the Valley communities.

Furthermore, Santa Monica participates in a mutual aid cohort with our neighboring cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, and West Hollywood. These relationships are critical to the funding we receive for our public safety departments and our continued training and mutual support in the event of emergencies or natural disasters.

For these reasons and more, we urge you to retain the current representational boundaries for the City of Santa Monica in the final Congressional district map.

Sincerely,

Sue Himmelrich
Mayor